

are mighty factors in promulgating the peculiar doctrines of our church. God I believe has opened the way for us, let us live up to our great opportunity. Let Pennsylvania become the keystone in the arch of Conventions by her liberal support of our publishing interest and God will graciously smile upon us and many precious souls will be given to Christ our Saviour.

I congratulate you upon the honor that our late National Conference has conferred upon you in selecting its Moderator and Editor in Chief from your number.

And now dear brethren and co-laborers in the Master's Vineyard I am ready to lay down the honor you have conferred upon me one year ago as your presiding officer. "To err is human to forgive is divine;" wherein I have erred as your servant I ask your kind forgiveness. I thank you all for your uniform and ever helpful co-operation, and I bespeak the same for my successor who shall now according to our custom be elected by ballot.

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever, Amen.

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"Take heed unto thyself and unto the doctrine; continue in them for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee." 1 Tim. iv, 16

BY H. P. BRINKWORTH.

The Apostles' admonition to the young minister was one of good sound advice; Timothy had received careful training as far as the reading of God's Word was concerned by his mother and grandmother. He was one in whom the Apostle seemed to have a special interest, his own son in the faith, and he cautiously instructs him to "take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine:" Jude says, in verse iii, "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." The reasons

are apparent: 1st, False teachers would arise who would not teach sound doctrine, but preach to please the people, to tickle the ear, they would make merchandise of you the Apostle says and these would lead many astray from the truth, therefore take heed. Continue in them—the doctrines taught thee, for in so doing thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee. To-day we should heed the Apostles' advice: The sin of the world to-day is alarming; how many there are who will not hear sound doctrine. Bible teaching, or the plain unadulterated truth: others are teaching for doctrine the commandments of men. Many are confused amongst the multitude of beliefs taught and some reject altogether. Brothers and sisters of the one common faith, are you interested in the doctrine, in the faith as once delivered or, are you growing cold and indifferent? Oh let us continue in them, for the Apostle declares upon this our salvation and the salvation of others depend.

I may call attention to some of the cardinal points in our faith and doctrine in which we need to exercise care to continue in them.

1st. Then we notice the observation of the command of Paul and Peter to "greet one another with a holy kiss;" five times we are reminded of this doctrine and command. Let us not forget the same. It will I believe strengthen our faith and our bond of Christian affection, and bring us nearer each other more loving, obedient, and childlike, and more humble and charitable: I fear we neglect this command too much: Are we not losing and becoming proud and haughty thereby? Take heed brothers and sisters and continue in "the faith."

2nd. We look at the church and the world yoking themselves together; the apostles' advice was "to be a separate and peculiar people" to "Be not conformed to this world." Rom. xii, 2, to have no alliance with the world in its fashions and ways, to come out. Now it is evident in many ways this distinction is not seen, we are not careful in these matters, and our leaders or Ministers as Timothy was do not "take heed" to old Bro. Paul's advice, but join themselves to these worldly organizations contrary to the Word and contrary to the declar-

ation of principles of their faith: this is entirely wrong. It is a shame and I would, warn you, brother, to take heed to the doctrine to continue in them, for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." "To obey is better than to sacrifice and to hearken than the fat of rams," Samuel. If we are to "pass the time of our sojourning here in fear," 1 Peter i, 17. "If here we have no continuing city," If we are strangers and foreigners, what need have we for these unholy alliances with this world. Let us give our undivided time to the church of the living God, and not only our time, our talent, and our means with which God has blessed us. To think that we must go outside the church for charity's sake, is to my mind giving away to seducing spirits and doctrines of Devils. Let us as members of Christ's body come out and be separate and set a better light to our fellow-man, for if the light that is in the darkness, how great is that darkness. Peter tells us that having obtained "like precious faith, there are given unto us great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust," 1 Peter i, 1, 4. He also says there were false prophets among the people even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction, and many shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of," 1 Pet. ii, 1, 2, and 3. Let us then continue to walk as the Word has taught, contending earnestly for the faith once delivered to the saints, walking in all the ordinances of the Lord blameless, and we shall be spiritually strengthened and built up in our most holy faith; we shall enjoy an inward peace; we shall have more right to claim our nearness to the old paths of our forefathers and laying aside the traditions and laws made by men we shall advance to a higher and loftier plane of religious life in which it is our duty and privilege to walk. May God help us to heed and continue to walk as the Apostle directs.

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